

HOUSE No. 1452

By Mr. Knuutila of Gardner, petition of Brian Knuutila and others relative to the educational expenses of students whose families fall within one hundred and thirty to one hundred and eighty percent of the poverty level. Children and Families.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Brian Knuutila
Patricia D. Jehlen

Christine E. Canavan

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO DISCRIMINATION IN PUBLIC EDUCATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 5 of chapter 76 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 2000 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 inserting after the word “origin” in line 6 the following:— socioe-
4 conomic status.

1 SECTION 2. Said section of said chapter 76, as so appearing,
2 is hereby further amended by adding the following paragraph:—
3 In order to prevent discrimination based on socioeconomic
4 status, no student whose families fall within 130 - 180 percent of
5 the poverty level shall be required to spend in excess of \$70 per
6 school year for costs that are necessary for the successful comple-
7 tion of course requirements including but not limited to calcula-
8 tors, required field trips, text books and school uniforms. Those
9 students whose families are at or below 130 percent of the poverty
10 level shall be eligible for additional discount on these materials.
11 This paragraph shall not apply to fees for extra curriculum activi-
12 ties and standardized tests.